GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3449
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2000
TALWAR COMMITTEE
JAYABEN B. THAKKAR

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether all the recommendations of the Talwar Committee constituted for reviewing the service conditions of the employees of Postal Department have been implemented completely;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) to (c): The recommendations of Justice Talwar Committee (JTC) on Extra Departmental Agents were duly examined in consultation with postal federations who wanted only the recommendations which they perceived as positive to be implemented and those they perceived as negative to be rejected. The recommendations of JTC were carefully considered by Group of Ministers (GOM) and thereafter orders were issued by the Government on 17.12.1998 in full and final settlement of all pending demands relating to implementation of those recommendations. The package of benefits for ED Agents extended through the order dated 17.12.1998 was then estimated to cost the government an additional Rs.301.35 crores annually apart from the estimated Rs.157.74 crores as arrears payable to the ED Agents for the period 1.1.1996 to 28.2.1998. [The package of benefits for ED Agents extended through the orders include:

i) Increasing the allowance of ED Agents by a factor of 3.25 for the period 1.1.1996 to 28.2.1998

ii) Introducing the concept Time Related Continuity Allowance (TRCA) in respect of ED Agents in lieu of monthly allowance related to workload.

iii) Increasing the amount of ex-gratia gratuity admissible to ED Agents from Rs.6000/-to Rs.18000/-.

iv) Introducing the concept of paid leave for ED Agents at the rate of 10 days for every half year without the provision of carry forward or encashment.

v) Increasing office maintenance allowance admissible to ED Agents from Rs.25/- to Rs.50/- per month.

vi) Providing for lump sum Severance Amount of Rs.20000/- or Rs.30000/- depending on period of employment to ED Agents as post employment benefit, on discharge from employment at the age of 65 years or on the death of the ED Agent or on absorption against departmental post.